

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Merseburg Airfield

EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 3 September to 19 October 1952

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 24 November 1952

REFERENCES

25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

~~REFERENCE COPY~~

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1. On 3 September 1952, there was air activity by MiG-15s at Merseburg airfield. No flights were made between 8 a.m. and noon on 5 September and between 3 and 5:30 p.m. on 23 September. On the morning of 25 September, take-offs were made by MiG-15s and Yak-11s. There was a low cloud base and a light haze.¹

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2. The board fence along the northern border of the field obstructs the view from the new by-pass road. The eastern and southeastern sections of the field are surrounded by a mesh wire fence as far as the Lauchstaedter Strasse. Along this road, a wall borders the field. The main entrance with a brick guardhouse on either side is located on this wall. A gate of iron lattice which was previously observed in the wall east of the guardhouse was recently boarded up from the inside.²

3. Four billeting buildings were being reconstructed in the billeting area. They were not yet occupied on 26 September. Another billeting building was recently finished with tile. It was occupied by soldiers.

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4. The following observations were made at the field between 10 and 19 October: 10 October. There was no air activity between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. and between 7 and 11 p.m. There was a 3/10 overcast at an altitude of 1,000 meters.

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11 October. Between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m., individual flights were made by swept-back jet fighters, [redacted]. The sky was overcast at an altitude of 500 meters. Visibility was limited to about 2,000 meters.

12 October. There was no air activity although the visibility was not limited, and the sky was 3/10 overcast.

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14 October. Between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., individual flights were made by swept-back jet fighters, [redacted]. There was a 5/10 overcast at an altitude of 400 meters. The visibility was limited to 2 km.

15 October. The sky was overcast, the cloud base being at an altitude of 600 meters. The visibility was limited to about 2 km. Between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., there was air activity including flying in four finger formation. Formation flying was performed very well. The formations flew through the cloud base.

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[redacted] Individual local flights were made between 6 and 8 p.m.

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16 October. Between 5 and 10 p.m., local flying was practiced. [redacted] The sky was overcast at an altitude of 500 meters. The visibility was limited to 3 km.

17 October. There was a good visibility and a 10/10 overcast at an altitude of about 1,000 meters. Flying was practiced by individual planes between 8 a.m. and

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- 2 -

25X1 and 4 P.M. [redacted] There was night flying between 6:20 and 11
P.M. 15 and 19 October. No air activity in foggy weather.¹

25X1 1. [redacted] Comment. According to another usually reliable source, Verseburg
airfield is occupied by a fighter regiment equipped with 30 to 35 MiG-15s.
Previous observations show that some of the pilots are well trained in formation
flying through the cloud base. [redacted]

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25X1 2. [redacted]

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